



# ARMING THE FORCE

The defense of freedom begins with the warrior, but the battle is won with weapons. The Air Force has fielded the best, the most sophisticated and most dominant weapons to defend our nation.

Arming warfighters with the right weapon is a goal as the Air Force transforms to meet the challenges

and needs of the 21st century. Today's Airman enjoys a superiority unrivaled in human history, but no one is resting on those laurels. Technology-to-warfighting is the backbone of integrating operations, with weapons that give Airmen the distinct advantage in any scenario.

But whatever the weapon, defense always rests in the hands of the de-

fender. People are the cornerstone to successful operations in the future.

Today, Airmen are better educated, highly motivated and undergo extensive training. They are equipped with more advanced weapons systems than at any time in history and are more than capable to defend our freedom.

— Tech Sgt. Mark Kinkade